

## NEWS RELEASE

September 17, 2011  
Mariemont City Schools

### **Mariemont Seniors Named National Merit Semifinalists**

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) has announced the names of the Semifinalists in the 57<sup>th</sup> annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Mariemont High School seniors among this prestigious group are **Katherine Peters and Mackenzie Shelley**. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists represents less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors which includes the highest-scoring PSAT entrants in each state.

These talented students now compete for Finalist status by showing they have an outstanding academic record, have SAT scores that confirm their earlier qualifying test performance (based on PSAT scores from October, 2010), and have their school's endorsement. About 90% of the Semifinalists advance to Finalist status, at which time they will compete for one of the National Merit scholarships, corporate-sponsored scholarships, or college-sponsored scholarships.

Three types of Merit Scholarship awards will be offered in the spring of 2012. Every Finalist will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit \$2500 scholarships that will be awarded on a state representational basis. In addition, some 240 corporations and business organizations will underwrite about 1,000 corporate-sponsored scholarships for who meet their specified criteria. Also, about 200 colleges and universities are expected to finance some 4,800 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards for Finalists who will attend the sponsor institution.

Established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Program, NMSC is a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance. Scholarships awarded through the program are underwritten by NMSC's own funds and approximately 450 business organizations and higher education institutions that share NMSC's goals of honoring the nation's scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.



*Photo:*

*Mariemont High School is proud to announce National Merit Semifinalists Katherine Peters and Mackenzie Shelley from the Class of 2012.*

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